

To: Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa[Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epa.gov]; Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]
From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Tue 8/11/2015 11:08:37 AM
Subject: Fwd: Update on Gold King Mine Release

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Gray, David" <gray.david@epa.gov>
Date: August 10, 2015 at 7:48:04 PM MDT
To: "steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com" <steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com>, "Smith, Paula" <Smith.Paula@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Update on Gold King Mine Release

Sorry Steve – your way beyond me so I have to connect others in Colorado.

From: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 8:42 PM
To: Gray, David
Cc: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: RE: Update on Gold King Mine Release

So it was 3 million gallons as of Sunday, yesterday, and in the 24 hours (1,440 minutes) since then, with wastewater continuing to pour out of the mine at the rate of 500 gallons a minute, that number hasn't risen to at least 3,720,000 gallons by now? Has there been a new measurement taken at the USGS stream gauge during the past 24 hours? If not, why not?

Also has any of the spill traveled as far down the San Juan River as Lake Powell? Has it reached Utah yet? To what point has it traveled?

From: Gray, David [mailto:gray.david@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 6:31 PM
To: Gorman, Steve J. (Reuters News)
Subject: RE: Update on Gold King Mine Release

3 million gallons

From: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 8:27 PM
To: Gray, David
Cc: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: RE: Update on Gold King Mine Release

Thanks. I appreciate it. In the meantime, is there a new estimate for the total discharge volume?

From: Gray, David [mailto:gray.david@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 5:58 PM
To: Gorman, Steve J. (Reuters News); Smith, Paula; zitto.kelly@epa.gov; Card, Joan
Subject: RE: Update on Gold King Mine Release

I think I can send you a link to the audio of today's conference. Give me 10

From: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 7:48 PM
To: Gray, David; Smith, Paula; zitto.kelly@epa.gov; Card, Joan
Cc: steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: Update on Gold King Mine Release

Hey folks,

Steve Gorman here from Reuters in Los Angeles. We unfortunately missed today's conference call update on the Gold King Mine Release, and I have not found anything online that appears to be obviously new, compared with Sunday's update. One tidbit I found was that the release has now reached Nenahnezad, N.M., about 9 miles west of Farmington, as of 3 p.m. yesterday (Sunday?) But I see nothing new about revised estimates for total volume released, which I assume should be rising daily since the discharge continues at the rate of approximately 500 gallons per minute.

At that rate, it seems reasonable to calculate that the total release volume has grown by at least 720,000 gallons above the previous 3-million-gallon figure over the past 24 hours. But if you have a more precise revised figure from the USGS stream gauge, that would be ideal.

Also, can the EPA quantify the degree to which the settling pond treatment has been successful in reducing the levels of heavy metal solids that remain in the wastewater that flows into Cement Creek from the mine site, compared to the concentrations present before the ponds were built? In any case, could someone please call me briefly, even if you don't have answers to any or all of the questions posed here?

I'd be much obliged, and we'll be sure to be on tomorrow's call when it takes place.

Thanks again for your kind attention.

Steve Gorman

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